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MAY 30 2003

In re Application of :
Masayuki Sato et al :
Application No. 09/232,049 : ON PETITION OFFICE OF PETITIONS
Filed: January 15, 1999 :
Attorney Docket No. FUJA-15.799 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed May 20, 2003, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed November 18, 2002, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 is limited to an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance or a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(b)). Since the amendment submitted does not *prima facie* placing the application in condition for allowance, no Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee) was timely filed. Extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on April 19, 2003.

37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. If the statement contained in the instant petition varies from the language required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3), the statement contained in the instant petition is being construed as the statement required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) and petitioner must notify the Office if this is **not** a correct interpretation of the statement contained in the instant petition.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988).

Accordingly, since the \$520.00 extension of time submitted with the petition on May 20, 2003 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 305-9282.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center AU 2142 for processing of the request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114.



Wan Laymon
Petitions Examiner
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for Patent Examination Policy